" (c) There was no calingula previously. The ryots used to cut open the bund to the required depth and drain water. A masonry wall has been constructed in place of the open cut. The original surplus course has not been altered."

Number of elementary schools opened and closed in Tanjore after the introduction of the Modified Elementary Education Scheme.

* 1022 Q.—SRI S. RAMALINGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number of elementary schools opened and closed in Tanjore district after the introduction of the New Elementary Education Scheme; and

(b) the reasons for the closure?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" (a) 39 schools were opened and 10 schools were closed in the Tanjore district after the date of introduction of the Modified Scheme.

" (b) 5 (five) schools were amalgamated with other schools in the locality.

2 (two) schools were closed as they were uneconomical;

1 (one) school was closed for want of suitable and accessible school building;

1 (one) school. The manager of the school was absconding. Recognition and aid have been withdrawn as he did not turn up for a long time;

1 (one) school. Conditions for recognition and aid were not satisfied and the teacher-manager closed the school.

The closures had nothing to do with the Modified Scheme."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM:—" What are the reasons that necessitated the uneconomic schools to be closed? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" The manager found them uneconomical and they closed the schools. Government are not responsible for it."

Payment of house-rent allowance to road maistris.

* 1023 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER:—" The hon. Member is not in his place. Answers will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHY GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether house-rent allowance is paid to road maistris residing in major panchayats and municipal areas and if not, why;

(b) whether they are eligible for the educational concessions allowed to the children of the Non-Gazetted officers;

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(c) the action taken on the request of the maistris for payment of gratuity;

(d) whether there is any Government Order that the maistris should own cycles, and if so, whether any cycle allowance is paid to them;

(e) with reference to answer to question No. 240 given on 24th December 1953 whether the Government have since passed orders on the representation from the road maistris under Highways and district boards; and

(f) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (a) House-rent allowance is admissible to Public Works maistris in municipalities where the allowance is granted to the other members of the staff. Maistris employed by panchayats will be eligible for house-rent allowance if the panchayat is a taluk headquarters station and the maistris belong to the regular establishment.

" (b) Yes, Sir.

" (c) No such request has been received by the Government.

" (d) No, Sir. If application for the grant of cycle allowance is submitted to Government, it will be examined on its merits.

" (e) No, Sir.

" (f) The matter is still under consideration."

Thirumandhamkunnu temple in Walluvanad taluk.

* 1024 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is not in his place. Answers will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI A. APPU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government or the Commissioner for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments has received any complaint from the worshippers in Thirumandhamkunnu temple in Walluvanad taluk, Malabar, that the various items of pujas are not properly conducted;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the annual income from the properties and from the offerings of worshippers of this temple;

(d) the annual expenditure on the staff employed in the temple; and

(e) the monthly salary of the manager of the temple?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) A petition has been received by the Deputy Commissioner, Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration) Department, Coimbatore;